



May 5, 2020

Try our May Quiz – [Cyber Safety at Home](#)

Save the Date for Security Day - <http://www.gov.bc.ca/securityday>

This week's stories:

- [Canada has taken down over 1,500 coronavirus-related scam sites](#) 
- [Privacy expert says flawed Alberta COVID-19 contact tracking app shouldn't have been released](#) 
- [Canadians have lost more than \\$1.2 million to COVID-19 scams](#) 
- [MPs convene first special virtual sitting via Zoom amid security questions](#) 
- [Police investigate theft of Alberta Health Ministry laptops from legislature last month](#) 
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Canada has taken down over 1,500 coronavirus-related scam sites 

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/canada-has-taken-down-over-1500-coronavirus-related-scam-sites/430089>

Canada's cyber incident response centre has taken down over 1,500 COVID-19-themed fraudulent sites or email addresses aimed at Canadians, IT World Canada has learned.

The number comes from the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security (CCCS) after an official told a webcast Thursday on cybersecurity and the health care sector that the agency and its partners have achieved "pretty high numbers" in closing malicious web sites targeting Canadians.

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Privacy expert says flawed Alberta COVID-19 contact tracking app shouldn't have been released 

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/privacy-expert-says-flawed-alberta-covid-19-contact-tracking-app-shouldnt-have-been-released/430252>

Alberta's new COVID-19 mobile tracking app is so flawed it shouldn't have been introduced, says a privacy expert from Alberta.

"There is nothing in any of this as to how long the app will be around, how long any information collected from it will be used or by whom in the world, except the [Alberta] Health Information Act allows it to be used for research anywhere," said Sharon Polsky, president of the Privacy and Access Council of Canada and CEO of Calgary-based Amina Corp., which advised organizations on privacy and data protection strategy.

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Canadians have lost more than \$1.2 million to COVID-19 scams

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/covid-scams-fraud-crime-1.5551294>

Canadians have lost more than \$1.2 million in recent weeks to scammers taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic, CBC News has learned.

Jeff Thomson of the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre said the centre has received 739 reports since March 6 of attempts to defraud Canadians with scams related to the pandemic. He said 178 of those attempts succeeded.

The centre is also seeing attempts to use the pandemic as cover to infect computers with malware.

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MPs convene first special virtual sitting via Zoom amid security questions

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/mps-convene-first-special-virtual-sitting-via-zoom-amid-security-questions-1.4915386>

TORONTO -- Canada's electronic surveillance agency says virtual sittings by MPs held via video conferencing app Zoom are in line with its security recommendations despite previous privacy concerns with the app.

Members of Parliament met for the first time virtually Tuesday during the all-party special committee on COVID-19. These virtual sittings will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, until at least May 25, as parliamentarians find new ways to maintain accountability while physical distancing.

[Click link above to read more](#)

Police investigate theft of Alberta Health Ministry laptops from legislature last month

<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/05/01/police-investigate-theft-of-alberta-health-ministry-laptops-from-legislature-last-month.html>

Two Alberta Health Ministry laptops were stolen from the legislature building in Edmonton one evening last month, officials say.

As part of their investigation into the theft, authorities searched some reporters' offices in the building, which has raised privacy concerns, says the president of the legislature press gallery.

The incident occurred sometime between 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. on April 21 and was reported to police the following morning, Edmonton police spokesperson Scott Pattison told the Star Friday in an email.

[Click link above to read more](#)

COVID-19 pandemic delivers extraordinary array of cybersecurity challenges

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/roundup-the-coronavirus-pandemic-delivers-an-array-of-cyber-security-challenges/>

As the COVID-19 outbreak threatens to overload the healthcare system and the global economy, it's also having a powerful impact on the security of businesses and individuals. This article is a grouping of many COVID-19 security threat articles.

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Hacker sells 91 million Tokopedia accounts, cracked passwords shared

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/hacker-sells-91-million-tokopedia-accounts-cracked-passwords-shared/>

A hacker is selling a database containing the information of 91 million Tokopedia accounts on a dark web market for as little as \$5,000. Other threat actors have already started to crack passwords and share them online.

Tokopedia is Indonesia's largest online store, with 4,700 employees and over 90 million active users.

This weekend, data breach monitoring and cybersecurity intelligence firm Under the Breach discovered that a hacker was offering the account information for 15 million Tokopedia users on an online hacker forum.

[Click link above to read more](#)

RDP brute-force attacks are skyrocketing due to remote working

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/rdp-brute-force-attacks-are-skyrocketing-due-to-remote-working/>

Attackers are increasingly targeting corporate resources used by employees who have now moved to work from home due to lockdown and shelter in place orders issued during the ongoing pandemic.

A highly popular solution to access enterprise devices remotely is the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) which enables remote workers to access their work Windows workstations or servers from home.

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LockBit, the new ransomware for hire: A sad and cautionary tale

<https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2020/05/lockbit-the-new-ransomware-for-hire-a-sad-and-cautionary-tale/>

Ransomware has emerged as one of the top threats facing large organizations over the past few years, with researchers reporting a more than a fourfold increase in detections last year. A recent infection by a fairly new strain called LockBit explains why: after it ransacked one company's poorly secured network in a matter of hours, leaders had no viable choice other than to pay the ransom.

A report published by McAfee documents the effectiveness of this newcomer ransomware. Incident responders with Northwave Intelligent Security Operations aided in the analysis. LockBit is most prevalent in countries including the US, the UK, France, Germany, Ukraine, China, India, and Indonesia.

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Information Security Awareness Team - Information Security Branch
Office of the Chief Information Officer,
Ministry of Citizens' Services
4000 Seymour Place, Victoria, BC V8X 4S8

<https://www.gov.bc.ca/informationsecurity>
OCIOSecurity@gov.bc.ca

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